

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-7 and 9 are pending.

Responsive to the objection to the specification, the term "KW" on page 5, line 10 has been replaced with "KB." Responsive to the objection to the drawings, the specification has been amended to describe the elements referred by reference numerals 24, 27-31 and 34-36.

Claim 8 has been cancelled.

Rejection of claims 1-7 and 9 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Kaganas et al (US 6425018)

Applicants submit that amended claim 1, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Kaganas.


Claim 1 has been amended to recite the step of "...determining a unique identification associated with the removable data storage device coupled to the handheld audio playback device, and decrypting the audio data file and the associated decoder file using the unique identification..." Support for the newly cited feature is provided in, for example, page 10, lines 19-21, page 11, lines 10-17. Claims 4 and 6 have been amended to similarly include this feature.

Applicants submit that nowhere does Kaganas disclose or suggest the above-cited feature, and as such, amended claims 1, 4 and 6, and the claims that depend therefrom, are not anticipated by Kaganas.

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Having fully addressed the Examiner's rejections it is believed that, in view of the preceding amendments and remarks, this application stands in condition for allowance. Accordingly then, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully solicited. If, however, the Examiner is of the opinion that such action cannot be taken, the Examiner is invited to contact the applicant's attorney at (609) 734-6815, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled.

Respectfully submitted,
SIN HUI CHEAH ET AL.

By: 
Paul P. Kiel
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 40,677

THOMSON Licensing Inc.
PO Box 5312
Princeton, NJ 08543-5312

Date: 6/8/05

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this amendment is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, Alexandria, Virginia, 22313-1450 on:

6-8-05
Date

Karen Schlanach
Administrator Name